6/U 3/19-10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

HEERY et al.

Appln. No.: 09/423,037

Filed: October 29, 1999

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

FOR:

INHIBITORS OF NUCLEAR PROTEIN/NUCLEAR RECEPTOR INTERACTION

Date: February 23, 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to taking up this application for a first Action on the merits, please enter the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 5, 3, 7, 9, 12-15, 18 and 19 as follows:

ar.

- 5. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 2-4] <u>claim 1</u> in which the signature motif is [further defined as] B²B¹XXLL wherein <u>B¹ is any natural hydrophobic amino acid</u>, B² is a hydrophobic amino acid, <u>L is leucine and X independently represents any natural amino acid</u>.
- 3. (Amended) A method according to claim 2 or claim 5 in which B¹ is leucine or valine.
- 7. (Amended) A method according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 5 [1-6] in which the nuclear protein is a coactivator.